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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant : WATSON et al.  
Appl. No. : 09/975,317  
Filed : October 12, 2001  
Title : METHOD

Confirmation No: 8178

TC/A.U. : 1616  
Examiner : M. HARTLEY

Docket No.: : WATS3001C/REF  
Customer No: : 23364

**AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to the Notice of Appeal filed on April 22, 2005, in connection with the above-identified application. The period for filing the appeal brief has been extended to expire on August 22, 2005 by the filing herewith of a Petition for a Two Month Extension of Time and payment of the required fee. This amendment is being filed in an effort to place the application in condition for allowance and avoid the necessity of filing an appeal brief.

Please amend the application as follows:

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.